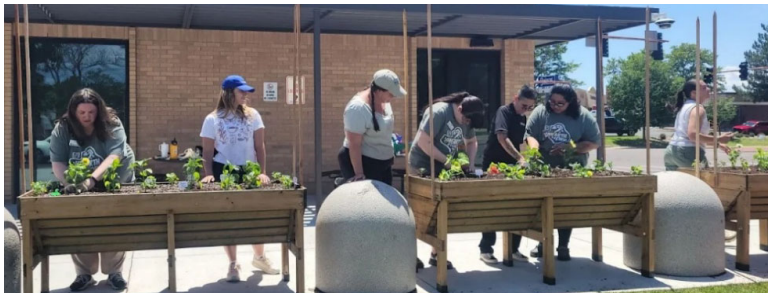


PUEBLO CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT
Report of the Executive Director – June
Submitted to the Library Board of Trustees
July 23, 2026

Barkman Library

Most anticipated Event: The inclusion of the Barkman Community Gardens with the Pueblo Food Project! We received three lovely garden beds and plants from the Pueblo Food Project to promote and provide to our community. Currently, we have given away several clippings from the basil and oregano herbs, but the veggies are not quite ready to go yet.



Group of 7 women planting vegetables in above ground garden beds.

Our highest attendance passive program is our children's Scavenger Hunt. It is monthly "Seek and Find" game where Barkmans Librarian Brigitta Myerhofer "hides" different shapes or figures around the kids' room for them to find. In June we had 156 kiddos participate for a fun little prize.

Special Outreach Initiatives: Most Improved Reader Awards encompassed staff attendance at Haaff, Belmont, Franklin, and Morton Elementary. Rough estimate of library outreach for community attendance for all events was about 1,745 participants.

D60 Lunch Program: After several years, Barkman is proud to be able to partner with Pueblo D60 Summer Lunch for kids' program. We give a total of 25 lunches out 5 days a week. At one point, the driver was already out of lunches and had to call another driver over to help give lunches away before he was half way through the time allotment.

Our Barky Basket winners for June is the Green siblings! They're name was pulled out of 87 Entries.



Photo of a young boy and girl.

One of our outreach sites has been renamed Vista Ridge but the participants still enjoy our crafts and are really getting into the Shrinky Dinks with Penny Jerman on her last visit there. It's not always about the craft, often times, it's just about a good social visit!

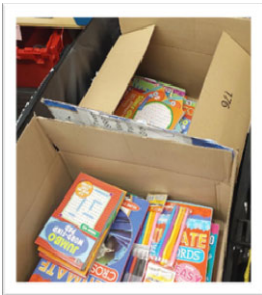


Three elderly ladies around a table coloring shrinky dink crafts.

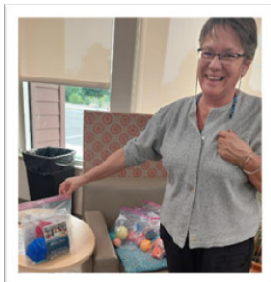
Giodone Library

Outreach –

With help from the Books in the Park employees we unboxed and distributed 500 Activity books including crosswords, sudoku, and word finds. Activity books were delivered to the evacuation and disaster relief centers, as well as each branch to have out for evacuees.



Giodone's Crochet Club utilized our yarn stash to create crochet and knit kits for the evacuees. We rolled up yarn balls, added a hook or knitting needles, and a stitch guide.



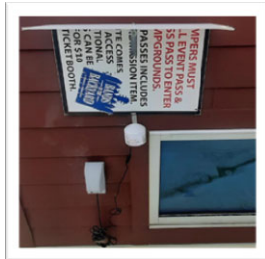
Kayci led a County Books in the Park at McHarg Park for 28 Boys and Girls Club Members. I read 5 books, we did a parachute activity, and handed out Summer Reading Prizes.

Program Highlights –

Our summer reading programs have been very popular with families, and we've had a total of 215 in program attendance for those programs in the month of June!

Building Updates

Amy helped develop a collaboration with the US Environmental Protection Agency, and they supplied the Giodone Branch with an outdoor and indoor air quality sensor. Al Perea with Facilities installed it on the roof of Giodone, and you can now see the air quality out here in the county on the [Purple Air Website!](#)



Conclusion

In total we had 436 in program attendance, 5 notary appointments, 5 public meeting room reservations, and 16 study room reservations.

Greenhorn Valley Library

Youth Program Highlight:

Title: Summer Reading Kickoff: Messtival

Date: 6/13

Description: Since many of our patrons can't attend the large central Summer Reading Kickoff at Rawlings we always offer a smaller local kickoff. This year we went with the idea of a "messtival," all messy crafts and projects that took place outside. Attendees were able to make slime, smash paintings, reverse tie-dye shirts, do a dig for geodes that they were able to break, and enjoy some other craft projects and activities while picking up their Summer Reading gameboards.

Adult/All Ages Program Highlight:

Title: Unearth YOUR Story - Show and Tell

Date: 6/6

Description: We had our second Adult centric Show and Tell program this June, featuring exciting entries like an original large copy "Dick and Jane" example book used to teach reading skills, an albino lobster, a Kokopeli jar, an antique jar of smelling salts used in funeral homes, and more. Everyone enjoyed the chance to show off some of their weird finds and tell stories.

Outreach or Special Project/Initiative Highlight:

Title: Rye ESS Group

Date: Thursdays in June

Description: Every year the Greenhorn Library collaborates with the Special Education teacher at Rye High School to host a group of students with special needs every week during their summer program. We provide them with a craft or engaging activity tailored to their differing ability levels and make sure they have space to enjoy themselves and shake up their routine as well as check out some books.

Patron Story or feedback:

One patron discovered a book that his late wife had written on one of our displays and was almost crying happy tears that not only did the library have it but also had chosen to feature it.

Lucero Library

Tina

Highlight: The Call Came From Inside the Library!

Description: The Summer Reading program at Lucero started off strong! We received our June prize winners from Thea in Youth Services. When I called our 0-8 year old winner, Ellianah, mom picked up. I told her that her daughter had won the monthly prize and asked her when she would be available to come in and pick up her prize. Funny enough mom responded, "We are in the library right now!". Myself, Jessica Blaha and Yvonne Harris went to the youth area to present the award to 4 year old Ellianah. Her friends and family were there and we were able to make it a special congratulations to a lucky reader! Her family and our staff got a kick out of the phone call and the experience!

Jessica

Highlight Adult Program: Crafty Crew: Summer Cross Stitch

Description: Our Summer Cross Stitch class on June 4th was a wonderful success, bringing together 17 enthusiastic patrons for a relaxing session of crafting and conversation. There was a fantastic mix of stitchers, ranging from complete beginners picking up a needle for the first time to advanced crafters looking to try something new. The event featured a vibrant variety of summer-themed patterns, which were a huge hit with the attendees. Patrons especially loved how quick and approachable the designs were.

Chris

Highlight Youth Program: Movie

Description: In one of the last snack attacks of the school year we watched a movie and made sandwiches. The kids got to choose from ham, turkey or both with cheese and grapes. We also cooked them on the panini press. When we ran out of bread they were more than happy to have them as rolled up finger food. More than average kids joined us and we also had a family come in and left a really great review on google for the Lucero staff.

Branch Highlight:

Highlight Program: Most Improved Reader Awards

Description: Myself and Tina had the honor of presenting the Most Improved Reader Award to students at Parkview Elementary, Fountain Elementary, and Eva Baca Elementary. These visits provided a wonderful opportunity to connect with students and families while celebrating the hard work and growth of our young readers. I also shared information about the summer reading program and encouraged families to keep reading through the summer. It was inspiring to see our school communities come together in support of student learning and literacy.

Lamb Library & Library @ the Y

Lamb Library held a total of 56 programs, outreaches, training sessions, and promotional activities this month, with a total attendance of 838.

YMCA Satellite held a total of 10 programs, outreaches, training sessions, and promotional activities this month, with a total attendance of 148.

Youth Program Highlight:

Title: Dino Dance Party

Date: 6/5/26

Description: As an early start to the SRP kickoff event, Lamb hosted a Dino Dance Party with dinosaur and family themed music, crafts, and goody bags. T-Rex was also in attendance, allowing time for photos and dancing with the kids.



Adult/All Ages Program Highlight:

Title: Brick Book Painting Workshop (Once Upon a time...there was a brick)

Date: 6/3/26

Description: Participants transformed ordinary bricks into decorative books by painting the covers of their favorite titles. The evening was filled with creativity, conversation, and laughter as attendees shared stories about the books they chose and admired one another's finished pieces. The program was a wonderful blend of artistic expression, literacy, and community connection.



Outreach or Special Project/Initiative Highlight:

Title: PDI Outreach

Date: 6/17/26

Description: Our monthly outreach visit to Pueblo Diversified Industries (PDI) was a tremendous success. Participants personalized travel tumblers with vinyl decals, choosing their own names and a variety of summery designs to create one-of-a-kind keepsakes. The program was enthusiastically received and continues to strengthen our partnership with PDI.

Patron Story: June SRP Prize Winners!

Brielle Barnes - 5 years old and Oliver Shaw - 11 years old

Pueblo West Library

Pueblo West Library held a total of 112 programs, outreaches, club meetings, technology training, and Kits2Go with a total attendance of 2676.

Youth Program Highlight:

Title: Tween/Teen SRP: Paint, Plant, Grow!

Date: 6/16/26

Description: The teens and tweens enjoyed painting their own clay pots and planting a succulent of their choice in their fun and unique pot. All the youth showed their remarkable creativity and uniqueness in the designs they painted onto their pots. A few of them stated that this was the first plant that they ever planted on their own and one noted that she would mark her calendar to be sure to water it every week on time.



Adult/All Ages Program Highlight:

Title: Working on Titanic

Date: 6/10/26

Description: PCC English professor Thomas Mattarocci presented an interesting and informative slideshow about what it was like to be an employee of the White Star Line on the Titanic. He brought several artifacts also. The 14 attendees were very engaged and asked a lot of questions. Thomas answered each and every one with an incredible amount of knowledge.

**Patron Stories**

The foreign film *Trifole* was screened in June. This movie was in Italian and was about truffle hunting. One of the patrons who attended told Beth that she came because her family is from Italy and did a lot of foraging in the forests for mushrooms. She had a lot of fond memories and told Beth how much she felt a personal connection with the movie.

A Spanish-speaking patron attended PW's monthly French club in order to improve her language skills in both French and English. We conversed in French the entire time and learned a variety of new words.

A patron attending Tech Talk brought her new iPad and wanted to download our eBook platforms. I helped her get Cloud library and Hoopla and showed her how to navigate them.

Outreach

The library attended the Steel City Arkansas Festival (SCARF) for the second consecutive year. Our new location in the Family Area as part of the Generation Wild provided an excellent opportunity to promote the Summer Reading Program and engage directly with families. Despite the hot weather, we reached more people than the previous year, and the interactions were more meaningful and engaging.

Submitted by the Outreach Librarian

Local History & Genealogy

Programs

- Bilingual Storytime: 36 attendees
- English Conversation Class: 28 attendees
- La Hora de Cuentos (Spanish storytime): 22 attendees

- 6/27 The Titanic and the Immigrant Experience: 9 attendees

An attendee at the program, "The Titanic and the Immigrant Experience," brought a laptop and took notes. After the program she spent about twenty minutes asking the speaker additional questions.

Total Attendance (in person): 134

Special Projects, Initiatives and New Partnerships

- 6/11 and 6/12 - The SOAR mural project art was installed, and an opening reception was held at Rawlings, welcoming 31 patrons.
- Ethos Book Tasting - 10 books checked out, spoke to 15 people
- Steel City Arkansas River Festival - contacted 150 people

Physical Archives Projects

- Created accession and resource records in ArchivesSpace, created box labels, and performed basic preservation for: 12 collections

Archival Reference Sessions

Vault visits: 16; Reference requests AskUs/Email/Digitization: ; Digital Memory Lab Photo sessions: 14; Digital Memory Lab AV sessions: 9

Volunteer Hours: 56 - Volunteers in LHG have supported the description of archival collections like the Colorado Rock Art Association, and multiple other collections. Catherine White volunteered 20 hours, leading English Conversation classes and one-on-one tutoring sessions.

Feedback from Patrons:

- **Katalina:** A little girl who's been attending my Bilingual Storytime has begun enjoying storytime. The girl's mom has been bringing her to storytime every week for several months and her daughter has never been a fan. Around Day of the Kids and Books, I started reading Bluey stories due to our special guest at the event, Bluey. I discovered that this little girl loves Bluey and I have started reading more of those stories at my storytime. Now, the little girl really enjoys storytime. Her mom told me that she has started singing the Color Song that I sing repeatedly and it's her favorite song now.

- **Tabitha**
- Hi, this is very helpful. Thank you so much for looking into it. It already gave me invaluable clues to continue my research into those guys who never came home. Thank you!! Ted Nardin (researching World War II soldiers from Walsenburg, CO)
- Thank you so much for the obituaries. I greatly appreciate it. It saves me a trip to Pueblo. Lisa Studts, Museum Director, Royal Gorge Museum & History Center

Experiential Learning

Experiential Learning held a total of 51 programs, outreaches, training sessions, and promotional activities this month, with a total attendance of 1020.

Youth Program Highlight: D60 Lunch Program, in partnership with Youth Services! Each year, Youth Services and ELD partner together to work with School District 60 to bring their lunch program to Rawlings. Each department schedules a team member to cover each day, and the kids and their families eat in the makerspace, with the food being delivered from 11:15 to 11:45 Monday through Friday. This continues the essential service of ensuring that Pueblo kids have access to healthy and nutritious meals even when school is not in session- we feed kids! We are averaging over 45 kids and parents each day. This is our 3rd year partnering with YS for this program and we hope to continue for many more.

Adult/All Ages Program Highlight: Summer Reading Kick-off Party- Smithsonian 3D Prints

Since our Summer Reading Program is Dinosaur themed (and what maker nerd isn't excited about that, I ask you) the 3D print team and I decided that we would print out scans of real fossils housed at the Smithsonian Museum for touch, exploring, and doing rubbings of for our booth at the kick-off party. All of the scans are available for free on the Smithsonian's website. After over a month of tweaking the files to work with our 3D printers, our volunteer Evan was able to make prints of the T-Rex and Triceratops to rub, touch and feel, and explore. We also had hominid skulls from a previous exhibit that were gifted to the library from the Smithsonian that we let families explore. They loved getting to touch and feel real (albeit much, much smaller) versions of real fossil dinosaurs and hominids that live in the Museum of Natural History in Washington DC!

Outreach or Special Project/Initiative Highlight: Artist in Residence Series with DeadHand

Shannon Palmer, or DeadHand, has been our Artist in Residence for two weekends in June. She has spent her time in the makerspace teaching and creating how to make "found fashion": in other words, taking clothing you already have, and creating it into something new, creative, and bespoke. She took our students through sketching designs, using a mannequin to model on, cutting and pinning, and using both machine and hand sewing to finish creations. We saw a lot of the artist community in Pueblo turn

out to visit Shannon during her working hours, as she is well known both here and in Santa Fe where she is currently running a gallery show of her two-dimensional art.

User Services

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Rawlings Youth Services held a total of 69 programs, outreaches, training sessions, and promotional activities this month, with a total attendance of 3870.

Youth Program Highlight:

Title: Summer Reading Programs

Date: Wednesdays and Saturdays

Description: Every Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. and Saturday at 11:00 a.m., we held a special program in celebration of Summer Reading. This month's featured programs included Sun Disk Necklaces, Sand-sational Nazca Art, Paint Plant Grow, Paint A Dino, Sun & Sand, and Stone Mosaics, with a total of 116 attendees.

All Ages Program Highlight:

Title: Summer Reading Kickoff

Date: June 5th 2026

Description: The Summer Reading Program kicked off with support from more than 30 community partners, all library locations, and special guests. Over 1,800 families attended the event to launch their summer.

The photo below shows the Youth Services Team with Dog Man.



Outreach or Special Project/Initiative Highlight:

Title: Books In the Park Kickoffs

Date: June 8th and June 10th

Description: The Books in the Park program kicked off at the Langoni Sports Complex and Lake Minnequa with 187 attendees.



ADULT PROGRAMS

Tea & Tech Sponsored by AARP of Colorado This unique offering continues to get great attendance allowing patrons to create amazing crafts while also receiving tech help! Daniel and Kathy's innovative approach attracts 10+ participants weekly, providing a supportive space for patrons to build digital confidence through group learning and individualized assistance with tasks such as installing apps, setting up email, reconnecting with family and friends, and backing up photos to USB drives.



Artwork descriptions from Tea & Tech: Image 1: A field of aspen trees surrounded by lush green grass and bright yellow flowers. Image 2: A painted terra-cotta pot featuring palm trees, a blue sky with flying seagulls, water, and pink tropical flowers. Image 3: A close-up of a face with one blue eye, brown eyebrows, and blonde and red hair.

Adult Literacy Program: Includes Career Online High School, Adult Literacy Tutoring, and Grow with Google Updates Sarah's hard work with the Adult Literacy and workforce development programs continued to show strong engagement and meaningful impact in June. The Adult Literacy Program hosted a tutor appreciation gathering on June 10, bringing tutors together to celebrate their dedication, share teaching techniques, ask questions, and strengthen communication and peer support. Career Online High School also saw a significant milestone as a full-time worker and father of three completed his final prerequisite, earned a scholarship, and officially matriculated toward his goal of earning a diploma, setting an example for his children and pursuing higher-wage employment. Grow with Google participation also grew substantially, with monthly learning hours more than doubling from May to June!

CSR Celebrations - Our Customer Service Representative team continues to provide exceptional support to patrons with care, patience, and professionalism. In June, Zulma's translation assistance helped us better serve Spanish-speaking patrons and create a more welcoming experience for Spanish speakers in our community. Bee was recognized for always being willing to jump in and help wherever needed, while Nate continues to strengthen team culture by celebrating his colleagues' skills and contributions. Daulton also made a meaningful impact by assisting a patron with completing a housing application, leaving the patron relieved and grateful to submit it.

Together, these moments reflect the CSR team's commitment to teamwork, accessibility, and compassionate community service.

Technology Support: Daniel has built a strong partnership with SRDA to support grant-funded computer classes. Attendance increased after moving the class to the library with Daniel's support. In June, computer classes at Rawlings helped 23 older adults learn typing, email, and cybersecurity skills. Daniel also helped one patron apply for a job during a 1:1 Tech Appointment and assisted 37 additional adults with other computer and device needs.

Facilities

Work Order Statistics

- 399 Work Orders Completed

Giodone

- Mowed field.

Greenhorn Valley

- Completed lighting.
- Mowed field.

Lamb

- Repaired rooftop unit.

Lucero

- Cleaned up washout.
- Cleaned and mowed the garden.

Pueblo West

- Repaired RTU #1 PW.
- Continued to work on building leaks.
- Mowed around detention pond.

Rawlings

- Installed sound damping panels in quiet room.
- Repaired roof over administration.
- Repaired boiler control.
- Repaired Ryals room refrigerator.
- Fumigated café.

Other projects/duties – District

- Supported Books in the Park.
- Striped the Furniture Store parking lot.

- Supported Summer Reading Kickoff event.
- Repaired trailer.
- Supported courier.
- Installed staff only signs.
- Repaired multiple sprinkler issues at all locations.
- Put out new scooter.

Volunteer Hours

PCCLD Volunteer estimated hours for the month of June 2026.

ADULTS	250.00 HOURS
TEENS	24.75 HOURS
TOTAL HOURS	274.75 HOURS
VALUE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS	\$9,558.55

Thank You Messages

Lamb Library

“Gabriella was a great help. She quickly fixed my problem.”

- Carrie – Patron

“I LOVE THE LIBRARY”

- Phoebe – Patron

Respectfully submitted,
 Sherri Baca
 Executive Director

